More than 700 students attended the WMU Study and Intern Abroad Fair (counted via BroncoNet ID card swipe) on October 2. The event showcased WMU’s 20 short-term, faculty-led programs and more than 50 semester or academic-year programs, as well as programs offered by non-WMU providers. Study Abroad is accepting applications for short-term, semester, and academic year programs. Scholarships are available.
Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Joseph Stoltman, geographer, professor, and WMU distinguished scholar, was selected as the recipient of the 2012-2013 Passau faculty exchange award from a field of 10 applicants. Dr. Stoltman is jointly appointed in the Mallinson Institute for Science Education and the Department of Geography. He will be looking at the implementation of the new German geography standards and science education in German teacher training.

Student and Alumni Accolades

President Dunn headed up a parade of 112 flag-bearing participants for the annual Parade of Nations held on the field at Waldo Stadium just before kickoff of WMU’s Homecoming game on Oct. 6. About 150 people, including the flag bearers, enjoyed the tailgate picnic before the parade and game. The event was hosted by the International Student Activities office.

Serving the community one ladle at a time, five Western Michigan University international students demonstrated their gratitude for the welcome they have received in the Kalamazoo community by serving soup to the city’s homeless on Oct. 13, at the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. The group included Hui Jin from China, Sifa Grace from Congo, Juan Peralta and Silvio Amado Cruzmelo from the Dominican Republic, Mitsuyo Izami from Japan, and Tara Severino, a WMU immigration advisor.

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Items of Academic Interest

Over 650 students and recent alumni attended the 2012 Engineering Expo this year.

The Engineering Expo took place in the main lobby of the Engineering and Applied Sciences Building on Western Michigan University’s Parkview Campus. There was a range of job opportunities for engineers showcased during this recruiting event that took place on Sept. 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The expo was free to anyone interested in attending, but geared toward WMU students and recent alumni in engineering-related fields. Those who attended were able to network with employers as well as discuss current and future employment opportunities. Representatives from more than 105 companies were on hand to promote
their organizations and recruit for internships and full-time, part-time, and co-op positions. Among them were 2012 sponsor, Gentex Corp., as well as Chrysler, Compuware, Consumers Energy, Domtar, Ford, Georgia Pacific, Kellogg, Nissan North America, Parker Hannifin, Perrigo, Skanska USA and Stryker, TowerPinkster, Walbridge, and Whirlpool. “Networking with potential employers is a natural part of career planning. Any chance students have to highlight their course projects, leadership activities, and co-op experience strengthens their job prospects,” says Christopher Sell, WMU career development specialist for Career and Student Employment Services. “Employers are routinely impressed with the quality of our students and alumni. Those participating in the upcoming expo will have the first chance this recruiting season to see our interns and future graduates.”

Student and Alumni Accolades

Congratulations to William Rickert, Nathan Lucas, Mikkhael O’Dell, Nicholas Wolters, Andrew Biscupski, Andrew Gabriel, Brandon Byrnes, Tom Henry, Vincent Krell, Tom Hiatt, Ana Perez, Dr. AbuBakr, Dr. Cameron.

A team of Western Michigan University undergraduate engineering students placed second in the Third Stryker Engineering Challenge held Sept. 27-28, 2012, defeating teams from the University of Illinois, Notre Dame, the University of Michigan, and Michigan State. Purdue won the most recent competition after different WMU teams had won the first two Challenges. The WMU team was comprised of James Lind (aeronautical engineering), Oscar Munoz (mechanical engineering), Michael Sharp (computer engineering), and Luke Sorrelle (electrical engineering).
Team coordinators, Dr. Damon Miller and Professor Fred Sitkins, were not allowed to assist the students. The engineering design competition rated student teams on their ability to build a device that could complete several tasks, including navigating an inclined plane, decoding an optically encoded audio signal, and autonomously locating and lifting a weight. After a Thursday evening kickoff meeting, student teams worked through the night to construct their devices for the Friday afternoon competition. Teams were able to view the course but were not allowed practice runs, adding to the degree of difficulty. Stryker uses the Engineering Challenge to showcase opportunities for students and to recruit engineering talent.

Upcoming Events

The next Senior Engineering Design Conference is planned for Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences on the Parkview Campus of Western Michigan University. The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences sponsors the conference to showcase the work of its graduating seniors, who are required to complete a capstone project that puts into practice what they have learned. Many of the projects are sponsored by business and industry. The conference is free and open to the public. You are welcome to attend all or part of the day’s events. Reservations are not necessary.

One of many projects that will be on display is the MAE Aeroship 2.0 student design project. L-R: Nathan Hamilton and Nicholas Konkle

College of Fine Arts

Items of Academic Interest

The Department of Theatre has just finished an extraordinary engagement with the lead puppet trainer from the Handspring Theatre Company of South Africa. Western Michigan University theatre students first traveled to Chicago to see a Handspring production and visit with their artists. Then, under the tutelage of Jason Potgieter, they created, breathed life into, and manipulated their own puppets, finding life in paper, burlap, fabric, and string.

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Jane Baas, B.S.’78, Chair of the Department of Dance, traveled to Singapore in October to present at the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science Annual Meeting. Her presentations included “Yoga Customized for Dancers” and “The Dancer Wellness Project: A Review of the First Decade.”

Works by Caroline Gore, associate professor of art, have been published in the first annual edition of JewelBook - International Annual of Contemporary Jewel Art 12/13 by Stichting Kunstboek in Belgium. Gore is one of 17 US artists out of 276 from an international jury of four highly respected professionals in the craft field.

One of many projects that will be on display is the MAE Aeroship 2.0 student design project. L-R: Nathan Hamilton and Nicholas Konkle

Chatelaine “.Dew.” by Caroline Gore, Associate Professor of Art

Necklace “.After.” by Caroline Gore, Associate Professor of Art
Professor Lori Sims was selected to be a Steinway Artist by Steinway & Sons pianos to be a Steinway Artist, joining artists such as Mitsuko Uchida, Harry Connick Jr., and Diana Krall to be awarded this distinguished honor.

Professor Lori Sims released her newest CD, LORI SIMS - Beethoven, R. Schumann, C. Schumann, Rachmaninoff, recorded at Stellenbosch University in South Africa and released on the TwoPianists label. She celebrated the release with a concert presented by the Bullock Performance Institute in the Dalton Center Recital Hall on Oct. 17. At the concert, it was announced that Sims was selected by Steinway & Sons pianos to be a Steinway Artist, joining artists such as Mitsuko Uchida, Harry Connick Jr., and Diana Krall to be awarded this distinguished honor.

Jeremy Siskind, assistant professor of music, recently won the 2012 Nottingham International Jazz Piano Competition. He was one of 12 semi-finalists and bested pianists from Great Britain, Poland, Austria, and the Republic of Mauritius, as well as five from the United States. Siskind is the second consecutive pianist with Western Michigan University ties to win the competition. Logan Thomas, a graduate of the WMU School of Music, won the competition in 2010.

Student and Alumni Accolades

Joseph Hernandez, a senior dance major, was invited to participate in River North Dance Chicago’s weekend workshop on full scholarship Oct. 20-22. Participants started the morning with dance class and spent the afternoon learning choreographic works by Frank Chaves, Mauro Astolfi, and Sherry Zunker. Sarah Williams, a sophomore dance major, traveled to Cancun, Mexico last month. Her dance line choreography, “The Bystander Effect,” won the People’s Choice Award for Grand Rapids at the Spotlight Dance Cup competition, for which the prize was a trip to Cancun. Spotlight Dance Cup is a part of the Federation of Dance Competitions, which was the host of the event in Cancun.

A composition by Andrew Maxbauer, a junior music student, was selected to be performed at the Society of Composers, Inc., (SCI) 2012 National Student Conference, Oct. 12-14, in Columbus, Ohio. SCI is an independent organization concerned with the fellowship, collaboration, career goals, and objectives of new and contemporary music composers and those interested in topics related to composition. Andrew’s selection for the student conference is notable in that SCI typically does not invite undergraduate composers to present their work. Andrew traveled with a group of School of Music students who performed his composition, Quartet for Soprano, Alto Flute, Violin and Guitar.

Alumnus Doug Roosa (B.B.A. ’82) conducted the Bronco Marching Band at the WMU Homecoming Game on Oct. 6, 2012.

Two Broadway designers who are alumni from The Department of Theatre have just completed guest artist residencies here at Western Michigan University. Patricia Nichols, B.A. ’01, returned to design lighting for the swashbuckling classic Three Musketeers, directed by D. Terry Williams. Nichols holds a M.F.A. in lighting design from University of California San Diego. Ms. Nichols is the associate lighting designer for the Broadway and all domestic and international productions of Jersey Boys, Broadway’s Pirate Queen, the Broadway, and all touring productions of Billy Crystal’s 700 Sundays. Her assisting credits include Lestat (Broadway), Mambo Kings (San Francisco), Lennon (San Francisco), Dirt (Broadway and National Tour), Dracula (Broadway), Sinatra (Radio City Musical Hall), and Wicked (San Francisco). Josh Reid, B.A. ’10, has worked on Broadway as the sound engineer for House of Blue Leaves and RAIN, A Tribute to the Beatles. His sound credits include work at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, and Josh has returned to WMU to train current students on the latest cutting edge technology in his field. Music Theatre Alumnus Billy Casey, B.F.A. ’10, is off to Manchester, N.H. where he will be playing Chuck in FOOTLOOSE at the Palace Theatre. Victoria

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Blade, B.A. ’10, is in the company of Time Stands Still at the Steppenwolf Theatre, and Vincent Teninty stars with Diane Lane in Sweet Bird of Youth at the Goodman Theatre. If you are watching television, then look out for alum Larry Herron, B.A. ’05, who is currently shooting Modern Family in Los Angeles.

College of Health and Human Services

Items of Academic Interest

In October 2012, Bronson School of Nursing (BSON) students, Alexandra Scheidt, Kaelyn Monroe, and Abby Smith, planned and implemented a health fair for alternative education students at Climax Scotts High School. The fair, funded by Walgreens and the Lee Honors College, was a research activity for their Lee Honors College thesis project examining the tendencies of adolescents and young adults to adhere to healthcare follow up recommendations. Committee members for the project included BSON faculty members Wendy Kershner, Alice DeYoung, and Sally Vliem, Ph.D. Volunteers from Western Michigan University, the Kalamazoo Health Department, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, the Family Health Center, and Bronson Hospital provided services at the health fair, including hearing screenings, dental checks, immunizations, vision screenings, chair massages, skin checks and measures of blood pressure, glucose, and cholesterol. Of the 31 high school students who attended, the BSON students were able to recruit eight of those who had abnormal findings to participate in their ongoing study.

Left to right, BSON students Kaelyn Monroe, Abby Smith and Alexandria Scheidt

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Occupational therapy Faculty Clinical Specialist Joel Phillips was recently nominated and accepted into a recognized leadership training program. First 50 is an exclusive, in-depth coaching experience that pairs proven Southwest Michigan leaders with 50 recognized emerging leaders from across different industries and professions for a year-long mentoring experience. The program, initiated by Southwest Michigan First, creates interdisciplinary leadership through giving young leaders extraordinary access to examples of legacy and strategic leadership. The goal is to empower and prepare the next generation of Southwest Michigan leaders, who will shape its companies, not-for-profits, governmental institutions, and schools.

Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse (SPADA) Assistant Professor Tiffany Lee presented at the Coming Together Conference at Western Michigan University’s Fetzer Center in October. The intent of the conference, a collaborative effort of the Community Healing Centers and the Drug Treatment Court Foundation of Kalamazoo County, was to facilitate conversations that help to reduce the stigma associated with addiction treatment and recovery. Dr. Lee lectured on “Women’s Issues in Addiction and Recovery” and “Advanced Treatment for Substance Abuse.” Additionally, Dr. Lee is the lead author of “Addiction Competencies in the 2009 CACREP CMHC Program Standards,” accepted for publication in the Journal of Addiction and Offender Counseling. The article’s co-authors are Dr. Stephen Craig and Dr. Bianca Fetherson, faculty with the WMU Counseling Education and Counseling Psychology, and SPADA Director Dr. Dennis Simpson.

Associate Professors Barbara Barton and Robin McKinney of Western Michigan’s School of Social Work have co-authored an article titled, “Perspectives on Sexual Health: Brain Injury Survivors vs. Brain Injury

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Professionals,” which has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling. In addition, Dr. Barton presented at the Traumatic Brain Injury and Veterans Summit, sponsored by the Brain Injury Association of America and the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, in September. Her topics included integration strategies for incorporating veterans into a university culture and the cognitive, interpersonal, and behavioral challenges which accompany these issues.

This past July, occupational therapy alumna Cindy Vennix ’83 provided a two hour presentation on Complete Decongestive Therapy to surgeons, oncology medical professionals, and students at Tongren Hospital in Beijing, China. The presentation focused on the background and techniques used in the United States to manage lymphedema following related breast cancer surgeries and treatment. Ms. Vennix has been a part-time clinical supervisor for the WMU occupational therapy program and continues to work with the medical community in China to provide preventative lymphedema education.

Student and Alumni Accolades

Interdisciplinary Health Sciences (IHS-Ph.D.) doctoral students’ research has drawn attention and support recently. Theresa Lynn, RN, LMSW, has received a $3,000 grant from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation for her dissertation research, “Experience of hospice referral: Patients’, Family Members’ and Physicians’ Perspectives.” David Huizen’s research poster, “Evaluation of Exposure Determinant Impacts on Qualitative Exposure Assessments by CIHs,” has been accepted for presentation at the 2012 Fall Academy of Industrial Hygiene Conference on Oct. 29-30. The research, co-authored by Sarunas Mingela and IHS-Ph.D. Professor Kieran Fogarty, focused on determining what the exposure determinants are that are most valued by industrial hygienists in making qualitative exposure judgments and what may influence the choice in exposure determinants.

Occupational therapy (OT) alumna Sarah Monteith ’10 has published “Systematic Review of the Interdependence of Cushions, Postural Stability and Functional Reach for People with Spinal Cord Injuries,” written in collaboration with OT Professor Debra Lindstrom, Ph.D., in the Irish Journal of OT. The manuscript is based on a paper that Sarah wrote for an OT class in 2009.

Congratulations to Western Michigan University’s physician assistant (PA) students who captured first place in the highly competitive Quiz Bowl at the Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants annual Fall CME Conference in Mount Pleasant! The Quiz Bowl consists of teams of three PA students competing in a “Jeopardy” style event. After four rounds of intense competition, WMU’s team prevailed in the final round against Central...
Michigan University by a single point. It has been several years since WMU has taken first place in this event and taken their turn to keep the rotating trophy for at least one year. PA students were also involved in a charity project during the conference. The goal of this year’s community service contest—Wipe out the Competition!—was to see which of the five PA programs in Michigan could collect the most toilet paper. WMU PA students collected over 1,400 rolls of toilet paper and placed second in this competition. The toilet paper will be given to the Community Compassion Network, which supplies hundreds of needy people in a four county area with food and personal items.

At the Southwest Center for Innovation Scientists’ Open House in October, Western Michigan University’s behavioral science student, Jackson Peebles, was the primary presenter of the preliminary data for the study “Clinical and Statistical Significance between Overall Nasalance and Trimmed Selection of Stable Syllable Repetition.” The presentation was authored collaboratively by students and faculty of WMU’s Speech Pathology and Audiology Department (SPPA) and the Lee Honors College. Along with Mr. Peebles, student authors included SPPA undergraduate students Catherine Hearit and Feben Kurban, and graduate students Stephanie VanderGalien and Emily Winters. SPPA faculty involved in the project included Stephen Tasko, Helen Sharp, and Gregory Flamme.

Upcoming Events

At 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 13, Richard Kirsch will present a public lecture entitled “The Affordable Care Act: How Ordinary Citizens Fought for Its Passage and What It Will Mean for You in the WMU Fetzer Center.” The lecture is part of the endowed Bill Burian University-Community Lecture Series, established in memory of the founding dean of Western Michigan University’s College of Health and Human Services. The lecture series honors Dr. Burian’s accomplished legacy and his foresight and vision. It brings members of the community and University together to interact with leaders in the field, focusing on the qualities of health and human services that were the essence of Bill Burian’s mission. Speaker Richard Kirsch is Senior Adviser to USAction, a Senior Fellow at the Roosevelt Institute, and the author of “Fighting for Our Health: The Epic Battle to Make Health Care a Right in the United States,” published in February 2012 by the Rockefeller Institute Press. Mr. Kirsch was the National Campaign Manager of Health Care for America Now (HCAN) from the campaign’s founding to its successful conclusion in April 2010. As HCAN’s chief spokesperson, he appeared regularly on major television networks and was frequently quoted in national newspapers, magazines, and on radio programs. Mr. Kirsch now serves as a Senior Advisor to HCAN. The Nov. 13 lecture is free and open to the public and will be followed by a reception. Reservations are not required but sign-up in advance will be appreciated at www.mywmu.com/burianlectures.
College of Aviation

Items of Academic Interest

Aviation students have been encouraged to apply for a real-world job shadowing opportunity through a partnership with Johnson Controls Aviation Department at Willow Run. Through the Blue Sky Involve program, Johnson Control employees submitted a grant for a leadership development project through the WMU College of Aviation. A check for $1,000 was received earlier this year to support the project. One student from each degree program will be selected to experience “a day in the life” of a corporate flight department. All three students will observe operations as passengers aboard the company Embraer 135 shuttle. They may also have the opportunity to observe the flight crew’s ground operation duties for each of the three segments of the flight. The maintenance student will post-flight aircraft with line and maintenance technicians, the administration student will shadow administrators and schedulers, and the flight student will debrief with the flight crew. Through the Blue Sky Involve program, the local community benefits from the involvement of Johnson Controls, and the company benefits from the increased leadership experience and team building among employees. In 2011, 14,700 employees participated in 1,100 Blue Sky Involve projects, donating more than 117,000 volunteer hours to their local communities where they live and work around the world. The goal is to grow participation every year to provide even more philanthropic and volunteer support for the regions where the company has operations.

On Wednesday, Oct. 17, Dudley STEM students and families participated in a “Night of Flight.” This was a continuation of a program that was started last year at Dudley. This year, Dudley STEM wanted to bring the students and families to the airport for a more enveloping experience. The college hosted about 100 students and parents. Students were put into groups and visited various aviation stations focusing on the four forces of flight, paper airplane building, building a craft stick airplane, and airplane coloring. Awards were given to the students and parents whose paper airplane flew the farthest as well as participation ribbons for all the students that joined us. Once the exercises at the aviation work stations were completed, students toured the FedEx 727, “Lacey,” and completed some other activities inside. Dudley STEM school had approximately 262 grade Pk-5th students during the

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2010-11 school year. Dudley STEM School’s make-up is urban and suburban. They represent the largest districts within the Battle Creek area. The school strives to provide programming and activities that reinforce STEM education in their students. Students receive the core curriculum in self-contained classrooms with teaming in instruction to better service student’s individual needs. Music, art, physical education and technology/media classes extend the core curriculum. The WMU College of Aviation is pleased to expand this important partnership that will introduce or broaden the field of aeronautics to youth in the community who have a STEM focus.

Student and Alumni Accolades

On Friday, Nov. 2, in Washington D.C., the USO will be recognizing, among others, Navy Petty Officer Greg Gaylor, an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician, who has been selected by the U.S. Navy as their Sailor of the Year. Gaylor, a 2005 graduate of WMU as well as a former flight instructor for the College of Aviation, was selected from approximately 300,000 sailors for this honor based on the steadfast determination and unwavering courage he displayed in saving the lives of his fellow soldiers while under fire and furthering the U.S. mission in Afghanistan. Notably, in April 2012, Gaylor and his team came under fire from four separate machine gun positions. With little regard for his own safety, he cleared a nearby compound of explosive devices and helped to move those wounded from the line of fire. While deployed, he also trained over 300 Afghan Commandos in Counter-IED tactics and basic demolition techniques, thus directly furthering the autonomy of Afghan security forces. The annual “Spirit of the USO Award” gala recognizes the extraordinary bravery, loyalty, and sacrifice of an enlisted hero from each branch of the U.S. military, including the Coast Guard and National Guard.

Upcoming Events

Instead of spending time with his family over Thanksgiving this year, Geoff Whitehurst, a faculty member of the College of Aviation (CoA), will be travelling to Sydney, Australia. In April, Geoff Whitehurst and William Rantz, also a CoA faculty member, submitted a paper titled “Testing Intervention Effects Using Single Subject Designs” to the Australian Aviation Psychology Association (AAvPA) for presentation at their 10th International Symposium. The paper was accepted and Geoff will be travelling to Sydney to present the paper on Nov. 20. The annual AAvPA Symposium is highly regarded in the aviation field and is an ideal venue for meeting colleagues not only from Australia, but also other countries, to discuss collaboration on future research projects. It is hoped that the presentation will generate some interesting discussion points as it puts forward the argument that in today’s environment of dwindling resources, the use of a parsimonious experimental design may provide researchers a less expensive way to test hypotheses and demonstrate

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effects of the independent variable. If the same research conclusion can be reached sooner and using fewer participants, without giving up the statistical stability, then resources are saved. Given the reduction in the number of participants and time needed for the single subject design, the paper suggests that researchers may wish to consider the option of using the multiple baseline design over the traditional group design as an effective alternative.

**College of Education and Human Development**

**Items of Academic Interest**

Adam Manley, assistant professor of career and technical education, had a research paper accepted by Youth Education and Employment in Russia and Abroad, a new journal that deals with emerging issues in CTE in Russia, where they are undergoing a major evolution in CTE. The research involves understanding how to teach career and employability skills to youth. In addition, Manley also recently signed a data sharing agreement with the Illinois Education Research Council (IERC) housed at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville. This involves helping analyze data related to the out-migration of high school graduates. Illinois ranks second regarding the number of high school graduates that leave the state to go to college elsewhere. They are trying to determine why this is occurring. Manley and colleagues have already submitted a research paper to AERA that analyzes some peripheral data.

Dr. Adam Manley

Dr. Jessaca Spybrook, assistant professor in evaluation, measurement and research, was recently awarded a $27,000 contract from the University of Chicago. The contract is part of a grant from the William T. Grant Foundation. The purpose of the project is to improve studies of the impact of group level interventions on program quality and youth outcomes. Professor Spybrook’s primary role is the development and support of the Optimal Design Software, a program for calculating statistical power for single level and multilevel studies.

The Dorothy J. McGinnis Reading Center and Clinic has expanded services and programs to include the following fall 2012 programs: Preschool Story Times on Monday and Wednesday mornings are for children who are 3 to 5 years old from campus and community preschool and childcare centers; Intern Workshops on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday that have been developed to offer support to undergraduate students who are applying for internships in the fall of 2013, and this is in collaboration with the Office of Field Placements in the CoEHD; Literacy Instruction on Thursday evenings for K-8th grade students to increase their knowledge and expertise in reading, writing, and critical literacy skills with various kinds of texts; Parent and Family Life Education sessions on Thursday evenings are available for the parents and families of K-8th grade students who are receiving literacy instruction, and this is in collaboration with FCS and the family life and education graduate program; Family Literacy sessions on Thursday evenings are for the parents and families of the K-8th grade students who are receiving literacy instruction, and this is in collaboration with the LS and the literacy studies graduate program; Common Read Book Discussion Groups on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and afternoons for students who are enrolled in some of the FYE 2100 sections, and this is in collaboration with FYE instructors in the CoEHD; Book Clubs on Monday evenings is for students in 1st-8th grade who are interested in additional learning opportunities that support and increase their confidence and interest in reading and writing; and CELCIS Literacy and Discussion Groups on Thursday mornings for students who are enrolled in an ESL 0110 section. For students who are learning the English language, the book encourages exposure to the language through speaking, listening and writing.
Faculty and Staff Accolades

Dr. Andrea Beach has been recognized with an Emerging Leader Award from the American Association of University Administrators. Beach is an associate professor of educational leadership, research and technology and directs WMU’s Office of Faculty Development. She was nominated by Provost Timothy Greene.

Dr. Carla Adkison-Bradley, professor in the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, had a paper published in the October 2012 issue of The Family Journal on “Postadoption Services Utilization Among African American, Transracial, and White American Parents: Counseling and Legal Implications.” The study explored the extent of the use of nonfinancial support services (e.g., participation in support groups or individual/family counseling) by African American, transracial, and White American adoptive families. Implications for family counselors are discussed.

Jeffrey Jones, assistant professor of secondary education, was recently recognized with the Emerging Scholar Award from the American Educational Research Association’s Out-of-School-Time Special Interest Group. Dr. Jones is currently serving as program chair for the Out-of-School-Time group for this year’s research conference.

Selena Protacio, the newest faculty member in literacy studies, has published an article in the September issue of The Reading Teacher, entitled “Reading Motivation: A focus on English Learners.” In this article, Protacio used data from her interview study with six English Language Learners (ELLs) from diverse ethnic and linguistic backgrounds to provide teachers with ideas about what factors to consider when trying to motivate ELLs to read in English.

Walter L. Burt was recently re-appointed to serve a two-year term on REL Midwest Board of Directors. REL Midwest is part of a network of ten regional educational laboratories funded by the U. S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Each REL serves a designated region of the country and focuses on the national priority of helping states and districts use data and analysis to address important policy and practice issues with the goal of improving student outcomes. REL Midwest serves the educational needs of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The REL Midwest Board of Directors met on May 8 and reviewed the Year 1 scope of work as recently approved by IES. The 28-member board includes the region’s chief state school officers, researchers, teachers and representatives of institutions of higher education, educational service agencies, and professional and community organizations. Elected to serve as board president was Jason Glass, director of the Iowa Department of Education, and Walter L. Burt, associate professor of educational leadership at Western Michigan University, was elected to serve as its vice-president.

Student and Alumni Accolades

The research paper completed by a graduate student in special (adapted) physical education, Andrew M. Colombo-Dougovito, was accepted to be published in the 2013 issue, volume 70(3), in a nationwide recognized peer-reviewed journal, The Physical Educator. This research paper is titled “Comparison of Physical Fitness

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Performance between Elementary-Age Students with and without Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.” Andrew completed this research paper while he took the course HPHE 7100 - Independent Study under the direction of Dr. Jiabei Zhang, a professor in special (adapted) physical education, in the summer of 2011.

Counseling Psychology doctoral students that presented at the American Psychological Association (APA) Convention in August 2012 at Orlando, FL included:


Health education students were model ambassadors of Western Michigan University at a national conference. At the recently concluded conference of the American School Health Association (ASHA) in San Antonio, six health education students were lauded for their representation of WMU and their presentation of an evaluation project in a poster presentation titled, “Breathe Easy Broncos: Tobacco Free Policy Study on WMU Campuses.” The six student members of the WMU Gamma Mu chapter of Eta Sigma Gamma attended the 86th Conference of The American School Health Association in October. They were six of over 100 students and over 1,000 members of ASHA at the conference. Accompanied by Dr. Amos Aduroja, the students attended networking and professional development sessions in health education. Sessions attended provided updated information in the area of education, service, and research in the field of health education. WMU students presented a poster presentation on an evaluation project they conducted on WMU students’ attitudes towards proposing a tobacco-free policy on campus. The study indicated an overwhelmingly accepting attitude toward the proposal of a tobacco-free policy on campus. Lauded by participants, many attendees asked if they could replicate the study on their campuses. Students in attendance expressed having fun as they networked with professors, health professionals, and students from around the country. In attendance were: Katie Rietkerk, Katie McDonald, Kirsten Henry, Katie Douglas, Ann Mergel, and Katie Cowdery.

As the junior interior design students returned for the fall 2012 semester, their first studio project was a collaborative effort with Western Michigan University’s Kanley Chapel. Chris Sligh, director of student activities and leadership programs, asked the junior class to design an environment that was inviting for students of all faiths to come study or to participate in bible studies or other individual and group activities. Sligh wanted the program rooms to be flexible to meet the needs of the different activities that take place throughout the day. The students were to consider acoustics, storage, and style to improve the function of the space. This project is the first time many of these students have used their education outside of the classroom environment. The students successfully demonstrated many skills they have learned in the interior design program. In 3 weeks, the fourteen students prepared design concepts, space plans, perspective drawings, color renderings, and construction documents. They selected furniture and finish materials and presented their solutions to the

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Kanley Chapel staff. The project is now complete in the classroom, but a team of students will continue to work with Sligh in the Design Development phase, to finalize a solution that can be implemented through WMU’s Facilities Management office.

Dr. Jody Tomko and Dr. Patrick Munley, professor and chair of the Department of Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, have published a research paper in Aging & Mental Health. The article is on predicting counseling psychologists’ attitudes and clinical judgments with respect to older adults. Dr. Tomko is a graduate of the counseling psychology doctoral program and the research is based on her dissertation under the supervision of Dr. Munley. Currently Dr. Tomko is employed as a psychologist with the VA Pittsburg Health Care System.

Assessment of Student Learning

Western Michigan University in partnership with Constantine Public Schools, Lawton Public Schools, Mattawan Public Schools, Otsego Public Schools, Parchment Public Schools, Paw Paw Public Schools, and Vicksburg Public Schools have been awarded a grant from the Competition for Innovative National Study on Teacher Practice. Special education’s Dr. Elizabeth Whitten will investigate the use of virtual reality to change teacher practice and student achievement. Ten sites across the country will participate in a national research project led by the University of Central Florida using TeachLivE™, a computer simulated classroom based in mixed-reality technology to develop teacher practice. Western Michigan University was chosen because of their innovative use of classroom simulation for teacher development. Their work is at the cutting edge of teacher education. At Western Michigan University the use of the TeachLivE™ simulator helps practicing teachers retool their skills. The simulator is a mixed-reality teaching environment that supports teacher practice in pedagogy and content. In the TeachLivE™ Lab, pre-service and in-service teachers walk into a simulated middle-school classroom where the room is real but the students are digital avatars, allowing teachers to practice their skills on virtual children instead of actual students. The focus of the research study is on practicing teachers and their personalized professional development and how the virtual environment could be used to change teacher behaviors to positively impact student learning.

Evaluation Center

Faculty and Staff Accolades

Several Evaluation Center staff members and Interdisciplinary Evaluation Ph.D. students are presenting at the American Evaluation Association conference in Minneapolis, Minn., including Saeed Almueed, Mohammed Alyami, Lee Balcom, Jason Burkhardt, Kristin Hobson, Stephen Magura, Pedro Mateu, Krystin Martens, Kelly Robertson, Diane Rogers, Daniela Schroeter, Corey Smith, Maran Subramain, Gisele Tchamba, and Carl Westine. In addition, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation program director, Chris Coryn, is giving preconference workshop on experimental and quasi-experimental research design.

Lori Wingate, assistant director of The Evaluation Center, and Arlen Gullickson, researcher emeritus, are giving two workshops on evaluation for approximately 80 people each at the annual Advanced Technological

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Education Principal Investigators conference. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation, the conference takes place October 24-26 in Washington, DC. Dr. Wingate and Dr. Gullickson are the principal investigator and co-principal investigator, respectively, for the ATE program’s evaluation resource center, EvaluATE. Visit www.evalu-ate.org for more information.

**Dr. Stephen Magura**, director of The Evaluation Center, is the lead author of an article that appeared in the Oct. 2012 issue of Drug and Alcohol Dependence: “A Novel Application of Propensity Score Matching to Estimate Alcoholics Anonymous’ Effect on Drinking Outcomes.”

Dr. Lori Wingate, assistant director of The Evaluation Center, coauthored an article that appeared the summer 2012 issue of Journal of Applied Learning Technology: “Designing, Marketing and Delivering an Effective Webinar: Guidelines Based on Research and Practice.” In addition, Dr. Wingate’s work is featured in the October 2012 issue of International Innovation. www.research-europe.com.

**Graduate College**

**Items of Academic Interest**

The Graduate Student Research and Travel Grants were established to support graduate students engaged in independent scholarly research, scientific inquiry, inventive technology, and artistic/creative activity. Graduate Student Travel Grants support graduate student travel to meetings or events sponsored by professional organizations for the purpose of reporting the results of their research, exhibiting or performing creative works, or otherwise disseminating results of their scholarly activity. The Graduate Student Research and Travel Grant Applications have been changed. These changes are in effect for all grants submitted in the November 2012 cycle. Note all changes in the Instruction Sheet of these documents, and also refer to the Checklist that accompanies each application type. The application forms are available only on-line and are interactive. Please type information directly into the forms. The forms can be saved. Paper copies of applications will not be accepted. Students, please send the complete application (for each award type) as one, single, PDF document, labeled according to directions in the respective application, directly to marianne.dipierro@wmich.edu. Faculty who are writing letters of support/evaluation, please send these letters separately/confidentially in a PDF document to marianne.dipierro@wmich.edu and label according to directions in the application.

**Student and Alumni Accolades**

Louise Schuster, 91, got a big surprise when Dean Stapleton came to her house in Sturgis to personally present her diploma. Mrs. Schuster had completed and received her B.A. degree from Western Michigan University in 1968, and had gone on to receive an M.A. from WMU in 1969. In July 2012, her granddaughter, Darcy Kelly, contacted the university to inquire about Mrs. Schuster’s second master’s degree. It turned out that she had completed coursework for a second master’s degree but had never pursued the actual degree. Working with Mallory Bourdo and Carrie Cumming of the Registrar’s Office, Dean Stapleton made it possible for Mrs. Schuster to receive her second master’s degree in literacy studies. To the delight of all involved, Dr. Stapleton was able to personally deliver Mrs. Schuster’s diploma, in its cover, to her home in Sturgis, making an alumna and her family very happy. We are pleased to recognize Mrs. Louise Schuster for her accomplishment in attaining a bachelor’s and two master’s degrees from Western Michigan University. All those involved agreed it was a great experience to work with Mrs. Schuster, her granddaughter, Darcy Kelly, and the rest of the Schuster family. Dean Stapleton had a nice visit with Mrs. Schuster, who was very appreciative of the time and effort taken to make sure she received both her degree and her diploma. Congratulations, Louise Schuster. You are an inspiration to all.

The Graduate College is proud to announce that Dr. Tova Samuels graduated with her Ph.D. in chemistry in June 2012, the first Western Michigan University affiliated MI-AGEP student to graduate from the College of Arts and Sciences at WMU since the inception of the program. MI-AGEP is an acronym for Michigan Alliance for Graduate Education and the...
Professoriate, a National Science Foundation grant program geared toward increasing the number of under-represented students in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and social, behavioral and economic (SBE) fields. Dr. Samuels’ advisor in the Chemistry Department was Dr. Sherine Obare. Dr. Samuels’ specialty in the field of chemistry is nanoscience; her dissertation title is “Strategies for Studying the Interaction of Nanoscale Materials with Chemical and Biological Contaminants.” In this area of specialization, Dr. Samuels primarily studied the interaction of silver, gold, and bimetallic-silver/gold nanoparticles with pesticides, specifically organophosphorus pesticides. These are a particular class of pesticides that are similar in structure to some chemical warfare agents. She also used silver and gold nanoparticles coated with an antibiotic, ampicillin, to study their effects on antibiotic resistant bacteria. She has earned several scholarships, awards and honors at WMU, including the Gwen Frostic Doctoral Fellowship for Spring 2011, the Graduate College Graduate Travel Fund award, 2010, and the MPI Research, Inc. Graduate Research Scholarship, 2011. Her extra-curricular professional activities include membership in NOBCChE, the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers, where she volunteers for the Secondary Education division. Given her outgoing personality and her many professional skills, the Graduate College has no doubt that she will “conquer the world!” and congratulates Dr. Samuels on her achievement in attaining a Ph.D. in chemistry at WMU.

**Upcoming Events**

The Graduate College, with the Graduate Center for Research and Retention, will sponsor a valuable workshop on Wednesday, Nov. 14, in Walwood Commons, in Walwood Hall on East Campus. The workshop will take place from 9 a.m. to noon. Jan Anderson, owner and president of Beyond Words, Inc., a Midwest Consulting Group Affiliate, will facilitate. We have hosted Jan Anderson before and her workshops are always well-attended and valuable to graduate students and anyone else who is interested in getting published in peer-reviewed journals. Students will have the opportunity to work on an article or piece of work that they would like to polish into a publishable piece. The presentation will help participants gain a better understanding of the peer-reviewed journal publishing process, which is a journey in itself. Knowing the intricacies of the journal selection process is key. Writers must acquire an understanding of what journals want and expect from authors who submit manuscripts for publication. Learning to recognize writers’ most valuable resources will help those who wish to lengthen their curriculum vitae with meaningful content. Participants will use a step-by-step process for taking a potential article through a successful publication cycle and will develop a successful publication plan. Reservations are required; please contact Dr. Marianne Di Pierro at (269) 387-8249 or at marianne.dipierro@wmich.edu or go online to www.wmich.edu/grad to register at our website.

On Monday, Nov. 12, Lincoln Jiang, doctoral student in the Department of Statistics and Doctoral Associate in the Graduate College, Graduate Center for Research and Retention, will offer a workshop on “Overview of SAS.” The workshop will be held in the computer laboratory of the College of Health and Human Services, Room 1416 from 9 a.m. to noon. Students must pre-register for the workshop and view two SAS video tutorials that can be accessed at www.wmich.edu/grad. This session taught by Lincoln Jiang is not meant to supplant a formal course in introductory statistics, but rather to review and reinforce your prior learning. In this workshop students will gain familiarity with SAS language and acquire an introduction to basic SAS procedures. Students will also learn about data input, management, and transformation in SAS, as well as how to conduct basic analysis: descriptive statistics; T-Tests; Anova; regression, etc. This workshop is currently full. Please contact Dr. Marianne Di Pierro at (269) 387-8249 or at marianne.dipierro@wmich.edu for information about when the next workshop will be held.

**Haworth College of Business**

**Faculty and Staff Accolades**

Dr. Tom Scannell, professor of management, Dr. Sime Curkovic, professor of management, Lindquist, R., and Isaac, M., had their paper “How Steelcase Put Procurement in Forefront of Risk Management” accepted for publication and is forthcoming in the November 2012 issue of Supply Chain Management Review.

Dr. Judy Swisher, chair of finance and commercial law, had her paper, “CEO Compensation at US Banks:

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Pay for Performance?” accepted for publication and is forthcoming in the Journal of International Finance and Economics.

**Dr. Sime Curkovic**, professor of management, was chief editor of “Sustainable Development - Authoritative and Leading Edge Content for Environmental Management.” ISBN 978-953-51-0682-1, hard cover, 588 pages, Publisher: InTech, Published August 01, 2012 under CC BY 3.0 license, in the subject of Life Sciences.

**Dr. Roberta Schultz**, associate professor of marketing, Dr. Charles H. Schwegler, Jr. (University of Central Missouri) and Dr. David J. Good (Grand Valley State University) will have their paper, “An Exploratory Study of Social Media in Business-to-Business Selling: Salesperson Characteristics, Activities and Performance” published in Marketing Management Journal, Vol. 22 No. 2, forthcoming in fall 2012.

**Dr. Bernard Han**, professor of business information systems, and **Dr. Thomas Rienzo**, professor of business information systems, successfully passed the Implementation Support Specialist of Health Information Technology Professional (HIT Pro) Certification Exam supported by the United States Department of Health and Human Services in summer 2012.

**Roxanne Buhl**, director of MBA (Grand Rapids), received the Certified Manager (CM) certification on April 17, 2012, from the Institute of Certified Professional Managers (ICPM). A certified manager meets eligibility requirements for education and experience and passes a challenging certification exam that assesses critical thinking skills and application of management principles. A certified manager also makes a commitment to follow the ICPM Code of Ethics and to engage in continuing professional development.

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**Student and Alumni Accolades**

A team of four students from Western Michigan University’s Integrated Supply Management program competed in a national supply chain management case competition held at Wayne State University in Michigan. The WMU team was among 16 teams from universities across the nation competing in the second General Motors/Wayne State University Supply Chain Case Competition. Other schools included Michigan State, Penn State, Florida State, Texas Christian, and Syracuse to name a few. Prior to the competition, the teams examined the 2014 Chevrolet Malibu Eco supply chain through a case study. As part of the competition, teams were challenged to explore sourcing options for components for the Chevrolet Malibu, which features improved fuel economy, but will also have a restyled interior and advanced infotainment. A key enabler of this new Model Year offering is the next generation of e-assist. The students determined the costs, risks, and benefits to pull ahead start of production by several months and presented their findings to actual GM and first-tier supplier managers. The WMU team members included: **Joseph Cronk** of Vicksburg, Mich.; **David Lipowski** of Mattawan, Mich.; **Johnathon Woolsey** of Rochester, Mich.; **Erik Markstrom** of Northville, Mich.; and **Dr. Sime Curkovic**, faculty advisor.

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Competing on the WMU team from left are Dr. Sime Curkovic (faculty advisor), Joseph Cronk, David Lipowski, Johnathon Woolsey, and Erik Markstrom. All the students are ISM majors.
University Libraries

Items of Academic Interest

The Ward Morgan Photograph Collection located at the WMU Archives and Regional History Collections is featured in the 2013 Portage Printing Calendar. Fourteen images were chosen and included shots of women working at the Kalamazoo Stove Company during World War II, a bowling tournament sponsored by the Sutherland Paper Company in 1945, and a yet unidentified lunch counter in 1949. This photographic collection contains over 25,000 negatives and covers a wide variety of subjects taken by Ward Morgan who worked as a photographer for over fifty years in the Kalamazoo area. Over 500 of the Kalamazoo area photographs are available on the internet as one of many searchable digital collections through the WMU Libraries website: http://www.wmich.edu/library/digi/collections/. Look for links to the image database titled “Ward Morgan Photography Collection.” Regional History Curator Lynn Houghton chose the images and wrote the captions. The calendar itself is an annual publication of Portage Printing, in operation since 1986 and owned by Craig Vestal, a former WMU student. The WMU Archives and Regional History Collections holdings total over 28,000 cubic feet, making the Archives the largest facility of its type in southwestern Michigan and one of the largest in the state.

Snack Bar, 1958, WMU Student Center, taken by Ward Morgan and in 2013 Portage Printing calendar

Leatherman and Steuer with event promotion. Photo Credit Western Herald

“Night of the Research Paper” is a new event developed by University Libraries this semester to support students through the preparation and development of the “semester research paper,” an assignment requiring knowledge of the collections and resources of an academic library. This Halloween-themed event was held on Tuesday, Oct. 23, from 4 to 10 p.m. at Waldo Library. Support was garnered through the collaboration of the Writing Center, College of Education, Lee Honors College, and Friends of the University Libraries. University Libraries personnel led students through the process of preparing a paper or project: defining and refining a topic, locating reliable information, organizing ideas, and properly citing sources. Two of the event’s organizers, Dr. Susan Steuer and Professor Carrie Leatherman were quoted in the “Western Herald”: “We thought it would be fun, playing on a Halloween-themed idea of the ‘horror’ that some students confront in writing a first-college research paper. Especially in those classes where students are given more freedom to choose a topic, they sometimes pick a ‘painfully’ broad topic. Their stress (read ‘horror’) subsides when we narrow the focus with them, and they begin to amass resources targeted for their needs.” “Night of the Research Paper” was a fun, community-building event that was well attended. Because of the open house format, food, costumes of ghoulish library employees, and prizes, “Night of the Research Paper” was a huge success.

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Libraries are all about sharing information freely and broadly! It should come as no surprise that University Libraries celebrated International Open Access Week, Oct. 22-28, with posters and informative flyers in the Waldo Library atrium. Institutional repositories have been most successful in higher education institutions that embrace open access across campus; and that initiative is most often led by the library. Libraries, in this era of declining support for acquisitions, are confronted by the astronomical rise in traditional journal publishing costs, especially in engineering, mathematics, sciences, and medicine. However, the internet with encouragement from the federal government, in particular, the National Institutes of Health, has enabled different approaches to scholarly communication and researchers, and institutions are taking full advantage of “open access.” Professor Maira Bundza, who has special responsibility for Western’s ScholarWorks @WMU open access repository, and Associate Dean Barbara Cockrell presented remarks on “Open Access and Scholarly Communication” on Friday, Oct. 26, in Waldo Library. They examined the current status of open access publishing and archiving, and discussed the progress, issues, and benefits surrounding open access at WMU.

**Faculty and Staff Accolades**

**Professor Michele Behr**, librarian for Extended University Programs, has co-authored an article titled, “Mining e-Reserves Data for Collection Assessment: An Analysis of How Instructors Use Library Collections to Support Distance Learners.” It is published in the July 2012 issue of the Journal of Library & Information Services in Distance Learning. With both budget dollars and buying power shrinking for academic library collections, the selection of resource materials has risen to a series of crucial choices. With increases in numbers of online programs, how can the support services of an academic library determine “if what we are buying is in fact what our users need?” E-reserves are a popular way to provide digital copies of course readings via an online interface. This study reports on an analysis of items placed on e-reserve at two large, publicly-supported Michigan institutions. An inventory of these items reveals: what types of academic materials are being used; what percentage are from the libraries’ electronic or print collections or from non-library sources; and whether periodical articles placed on e-reserve are from scholarly publications. The results of this analysis provide useful insight into collection building through this assessment and the nature of materials being used by faculty in support of distance learners.

**Professor Michele Behr**, Librarian for Extended University Programs

**Sharon Carlson**, director of University Archives and Regional History Collections, was re-elected to the board of the Historical Society of Michigan at its 138th annual meeting and State History Conference in Monroe on Sept. 29. She currently serves as the secretary for the organization and is also co-chair for the 2013 State History Conference which will be in Kalamazoo, Sept. 27-29, 2013, at WMU’s Fetzer Center.

Upcoming Events

University Libraries hosted an event for the University Common Read on Oct. 10. “Reading with Friends” featured Mrs. Carol Haenicke, Mrs. Linda Dunn, and Dean Joe Reish, who read selected passages from this year’s title “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks.” Each of these presenters chose sections of the book that they found touching, inspiring, surprising, or intellectually curious. Discussion regarding the book’s themes, author, characters, and structure followed. Students, faculty, staff, and members of the community attended this function. Rebecca Skloot, author of “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks,” will be speaking on Jan. 14, 2013, at 7 p.m. in the Shaw Theatre of the Gilmore Theatre Complex. David “Sonny” Lacks and another member of the Lacks family will be on campus for a question and answer session on Feb. 11, 2013, at 4:30 p.m. in the Fetzer Center Auditorium. For more information on the University Common Read please go to http://libguides.wmich.edu/content.php?id=306626&sid=2511996. Please contact Professor Miranda Howard regarding other events connected to the Common Read, which goes through spring semester.

Extended University Programs

Items of Academic Interest

In September, Dr. Dawn Gaymer, associate provost for Extended University Programs, joined universities, NGOs, and public officials from around the world in Tongyeoung, Korea for the 7th annual conference of the United Nations University Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development (UNU-RCE). Individuals at the conference identified new opportunities to engage in education for sustainable development and for advancing the cause through collaboration and collective impact as the UN’s decade of education for sustainable development nears completion. In 2007, Dr. Harold Glasser worked with the United Nations and the city of Grand Rapids to secure the UNU-RCE designation for Grand Rapids. Currently, Grand Rapids is the only UNU-RCE designation in the United States with two additional locations. Dr. Gaymer represented the GR-RCE and serves on the GR-RCE advisory board with Mayor Heartwell and representatives from higher education and K-12 in the
Grand Rapids area. This United Nation’s relationship provides opportunities for Western Michigan University to globally engage in education and research with partners around the world. For example, the America’s (South and North) currently are collaborating around a theme of sustainability related to indigenous people, and the European RCEs are conducting the trainer workshops in Egypt for sustainable education in primary and secondary schools.

Dr. Dawn Gaymer, associate provost of Extended University Programs, along with Luann Harden, director of WMU-Southwest, and Sharon Russell, director of Lifelong Learning and Education, both current Educational Leadership doctoral students, presented at the 2012 National Outreach Scholarship Conference at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa on Oct. 1. The presentation was titled “Integrating the Scholarship of Outreach and Engagement at Regional Locations.” It offered attendees a glimpse of the transformation within Extended University Programs and its eight regional locations as a focus of being a major partner with the University’s outreach and engagement mission that is strategically being implemented across the state.

On Sept. 13, WMU-Southwest, Benton Harbor, held the first job fair in southwest Michigan geared exclusively towards veterans. The event was hosted by the State of Michigan’s Veterans’ Services/Work Force Development Agency, WMU-Southwest, and Michigan Works! The reason for the fair was simple. Veterans in Michigan are dealing with an even higher unemployment rate than the general public. The WMU-Southwest campus was buzzing with both recruiters looking for employees and veterans looking for employment. There were 23 businesses, including Perrigo, Whirlpool, and Morrison Equipment, three staffing agencies, and seven educational institutions, including Western Michigan University and Lake Michigan College. Fifteen veterans interviewed that day with various employers and another 30 scheduled interviews. Future plans are already being developed for a second job fair and additional workshops to serve the veterans.